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## ANAESTHESIA OF THE PROGRESSIVE PARTY

The recent gathering of the leaders of the Progressive party in Chicago gave no outward sign of approaching dissolution. On the contrary there was an outward show of party spirit and party loyalty which would seem to indicate further activity on the part of the followers of the sage of Oyster Bay. However, appearances are sometimes deceptive and it is not improbable that they were in this instance, even though no sine die adjournment was taken. It may well be questioned if the Progressive party has not already lived its brief life and passed into history.

Although its appearance in such a time and manner was perhaps significant of unsettled political conditions and may have really presaged a general realignment, just as did those of the Free Soil and Know-nothing parties of sixty odd years ago, it was evident from the first that it lacked in the elements which would make for permanence as a party organization. At best it was but a factional movement. Its dissenting differences with the party from which it seceded were really differences of opinion as to means and methods rather than of principles and ends to be attained. Its attitude on the tariff question, for instance, did not differ materially from that of the parent party. The least that could have been expected should have been a clean-cut demand for the creation of a tariff commission that would forever end the present system of arbitrary tariff laws.

The platform of the Progressive party evaded several of the important issues that have been pressing for national attention for many years past. Its utterance on foreign immigration was a meaningless platitude. It dodged the race question when it is patent that no new national party could hope to enter the southern states without coming clean with a declaration on that important subject. In this connection it may be well to remark upon the significance of the fact that the only state in which the Progressive party sustained itself in the recent elections was California, where its leaders had fearlessly grappled with a local race issue. There can be little doubt but that there is an increasingly large element in the voting population which is viewing parties and party issues from an independent point of observation. Such voters may be swayed for a time by the illusory appeals of pretended issues, but such support is seldom lasting. The founders of the Progressive party movement undoubtedly had a great opportunity, but it is evident to all that they did not rise to the occasion.

Whether there will ever be another convention or council of the national Progressive party may well be doubted. If an efficient leadership—one gifted with sufficient capacity and genius for organization to induce the progressive membership of both of the old parties to unite and make a common cause instead of continuing the old strife over imaginary lines and threadbare issues—if such a leadership should arise, then the new national party will be here. And it will be a national party, too, and not a sectional one.

## WE HAVE PROTECTION ON THE BORDER.

The secretary of war has been directed by the president to send men to the Mexican border for the protection of our own citizens in that part of the country and General Bliss is given command. Such an order may come late. It ought to have been anticipated, but it is better late than not at all.

There has been a fear on the part of most people that the government intended to continue indefinitely its policy of watching and waiting and doing nothing else, no matter how many Americans might be killed and wounded on our own side of the border.

General Bliss will certainly not stand for any nonsense or intrusion by the people of the neighboring country to the people on his side of the line. The various Mexican factions that are fighting one another have been warned away many a time and are warned again that they must not come too near the line when they engage in shooting, but that seems to have no effect upon them. The only thing they understand and respect will be guns and soldiers to man them.

Late as it is, a firm policy is indispensable from this time on. We have withheld our men for so long a time that the world begins to feel that we have no ambition to interfere with the Mexicans in the management of their own affairs and certainly no desire whatever to gain a foothold there that shall justify us in retaining possession of any part of Mexican soil.

## AN UNPREJUDICED VIEW OF WILHELM.

Perhaps no other man in the whole world has been given more public discussion than has the German kaiser within the past few months and it is hardly possible to imagine that any other public character has been more loved and more hated at the same time.

William II. has been the object of some very bitter attacks by American newspapers and Amer-

ican magazines since the outbreak of the war. He has been pictured as an ogre by writers and cartoonists who have resolutely refused even for a moment to look at the situation from the kaiser's point of view.

It is not difficult to pick flaws in the intentions and the strategy of those who have been responsible for German policy these past five months. At the same time the kind of criticism that only sees one side and refuses to pay any attention to the motives and the underlying conditions governing the other, is not criticism at all.

The kaiser has been a fine figure of a king. Beside him some of the men who have been flopping around in the king business in Europe these past few decades have presented but a sorry spectacle. He has been a man of energy and ability, and there is no doubt that his whole heart has been wrapped up in the cause of Germany, as it was given him to see that cause.

It is utterly impossible for the world to look at the kaiser now in an unprejudiced way, but in after years when history has been written, even with all its dark pages, perhaps he will be seen to a better advantage.

## IS SENATOR LANE TOO OUTSPOKEN?

Senator Harry Lane of Oregon does not play the game as others think he ought to play it and they are charging that he is too outspoken. The Hon. Lane has said some things about the other United States senators that has taken the skin off and left some very sore spots.

It must be that Senator Lane is different. Doubtless he had the same ideas about the dignified United States senators that all of us have when we view them from a distance. He thought they were honorable and dignified gentlemen, sent to Washington to transact the nation's affairs as business men. That is, he had that opinion until he was sent to Washington to represent Oregon in the senate.

The greatest fault Lane finds with the senators is that they are just like ward politicians. He says they do not average above the members of a city council, and by studying that assertion a little the people of Oklahoma City and other cities can get some idea of their caliber. The Oregon senator skins them for the manner in which they mangle every bill that comes before them for consideration.

Senator Lane also jumps the other senators because they are tied to precedents. They can do nothing without a precedent. Like the courts, they search their souls and the past for precedents before they make a move.

Lane admits that there are some intelligent men in the United States senate, but says the bulk of them are ordinary mutts, such as may be found in the city councils and legislatures of the land. It might be well for the people of the different states to look into the charges made by Lane and find out if they are true.

## DENVER IS CONFRONTING A PROBLEM.

When winter comes the city of Denver is surrounded by drifts of snow, tall mountains covered with it looming up on nearly every side and all trains delayed on account of the drifts. Denver does not expect the tourists at such a season.

But in summer time Denver and other Colorado cities fatten off the tourists. Those who have not money enough to go to California go to Colorado. They may stay in Colorado Springs or some other town most of the time, but habitually they go to Denver to get a drink.

Just now Denver is sending up a wail that reaches through the ambient atmosphere clear to the cerulean blue of the skies. In an abstracted moment the city was voted dry a short time ago, and the sad realization of what has been done has just dawned upon the inhabitants.

It would not have been so bad, for the bootlegger could have operated in place of the saloon keeper, had it not been that Governor Carlson says he intends to enforce the dry law to the limit. There will be no saloons, no blind tigers, no bootlegging joints in Denver, the new governor says, and the city will be as dry as a bone. The inhabitants are mournful, for they can see that there will be no more conventions in Denver, no more tourists, no sale of Indian souvenirs made in New Jersey, no more crowded hotels and boarding houses, no nothing.

Denver has had a hard time and Colorado has had a hard time. The tourists have not been so numerous of late. For the saloons to be wiped out and sobriety to be thrust upon the people of the mountain state's chief city at one fell swoop is almost too much. No wonder the inhabitants are howling.

## ANDREW CARNEGIE IS SUSTAINED.

The movement to induce the warring nations of Europe to cease fighting during the Christmas holidays failed, as those who undertook it might have known it would. Apparently all the world, aside from those engaged in the war, stood out for the cessation of hostilities during that period.

But there was one notable exception. Andrew Carnegie was against it and said it would be unchristian to stop the fighting and then begin it again.

Thereupon everybody else arose and said Carnegie was wrong and he was most heartily condemned for his utterance and the stand he had taken. Some very bitter things have been said about the laird of Skibo on account of the stand he took, many of which were not at all deserved by him.

For as a matter of fact Andrew Carnegie was right. If such a program were possible, which it manifestly isn't, a stoppage of the war to celebrate the birthday of the Prince of Peace would be nothing better than a ghastly, hypocritical mockery.

From a purely practical standpoint, such a movement would constitute a distinct evil. It would serve only to prolong the agony. There is killing in hand which must be finished before there can be any permanent peace, and since it must be done the sooner the work is finished the better. A bad job should never be stretched over any greater period of time than is absolutely necessary.

All the world knows now that the war must be fought out to a finish in order that peace may come. That it will be a lasting peace there can be little doubt, for the nations of Europe, when this war is ended, will be too exhausted for a long time to fight any more.

Out on the firing line the letters of the Prince of Wales are censored just like those of other persons. And when he becomes king the censoring will go on as diligently as ever, owing to the peculiarities of the British constitution.

## PEANUTS IN THE ROASTER

Reference has been made in this column from time to time about the difficulty that is experienced by those who endeavor to project their minds into the future and gather the details of what is going to take place. Some of us find it utterly impossible to accomplish this feat.

It is far easier to send the intellect back into the past and pick up some fond recollections there. Some of the memories that come trooping up may not be so pleasant, but when we think of the things that have gone we have to take the bitter with the sweet. The page has been written and the fortunate indeed is the man who has not put too many ugly blots upon it.

You can remember, can you not, how you used to look at the photographs in the family album and admire the faces of your relatives and their friends? You could determine even at that time, young and unso-



phisticated though you were, that your Uncle Jim, shown in the tintype with his hand on the shoulder of his blushing bride, had a sheepish look on his face. He had been married only a few days when the picture was taken.

Your Uncle Jim went away to the war or stayed at home and fought his battles, you forget which, but at any rate he must have been brave. The girl by his side, to whom he had just been married, had eyes like shoe buttons and her hair was so extremely pompadour that it looked like the awning over the grocery store.

But you must get out the old album now and look at the pictures again to get their full benefit and induce your mind to follow the trail to the yesterday.

There is a picture of the school-chapter who used to wield a switch so deviously. How you used to hate that old duffer! It was the ambition of your youth to grow up quickly so



that you could walk into the school-room some day, take him by the neck and wipe up the floor with him.

Of course you wouldn't do anything of the kind, now, even though you may be large enough. Should you by any chance be touring through the country where you used to attend school as a boy and should you stop your car in front of the very same schoolhouse and find that same old schoolmaster there you would not wipe up the floor with him.

That fat lady whose picture is in the old album is your Aunt Linda, but you didn't remember that she was quite so large. Time had tanned her down in your memory somewhat, but her photograph proves that she was large and wholesome. At least she was large.

Uncle Jake and Uncle Pete have long since passed to their separate rewards, whatever they might have been, and as their pictures recall them to memory you wonder that they were not known as the fat and the



lean. Uncle Jake was always jocular and laughed all the time, while your Uncle Pete was morose and seemed to have trouble on his mind constantly. You remember that you liked your Uncle Jake best.

From the daguerotypes of those you do not remember, past the tintypes of your relatives and on through the faded photographs it is easy to pick out the ones you loved, or would have loved had you known them. They are the ones who smiled.

Not the fixed smirk that is coaxed to the features by the photographer of the present day, but the smile that went with the cheerful countenance and belonged there. Aunt Ann had it.

But there are strange things in this world and memory comes trooping back with a host of them when you look at the old family album.

One of the strangest of all is that Aunt Ann with her smile and Uncle Pete with his gloomy countenance were husband and wife.

And another is that they lived together more than fifty years, though they are both dead now.

God rest the soul of Aunt Ann.  
RICHARD S. GRAVES.

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**WHAT WOMEN ARE DOING**  
Clubwomen generally are giving their sanction to the motion pictures for use in municipal dance halls.  
A clubhouse for 3,000 women co-operating in civic work has been opened by the Boston Women's City Club.  
Chicago women have organized a society to get positions for jobless girls, and they are putting to work about seventy a day.  
Kentucky women at the head of the women's forward Kentucky movement have taken the initial step in a campaign to free the state from adult literacy by 1920.  
The conservation department of the General Federation of Women's Clubs has issued an appeal to clubwomen to save birds by aiding in the enforcement of the new federal bill.  
Paris women have hit upon a new plan for aiding their country in the war. They are "adopting" wounded soldiers. Under this plan each woman of the organization has transferred to her care and responsibility of one wounded soldier.  
As a part of an effort to advance remedial legislation in Illinois a woman's legislative congress, which various social, educational and industrial problems will be considered has been called to meet in Chicago Dec. 10, 11 and 12.  
The community kitchen is talked of at regular intervals, but never seems to get much farther than the experiment stage. However, some women in New Jersey tired of the troubles of housekeeping, are trying to establish such a kitchen, and seem to think that they have worked out a plan that will make it successful.  
One great-grandmother, three grandmothers and scores of mothers are among the 500 women, many of them prominent in society, who enrolled in the Saturday course given at Washington University, St. Louis.  
Women have organized societies in New York, Boston, Chicago and Washington on the "constructive peace" plan. A big convention is to be held in Washington in January at which practical methods for the furtherance of the peace plan will be adopted.  
Department store clerk, stenographers and other working women of New York City have organized a co-operative employment bureau and are contributing to the fund to paying wages to out-of-work girls for working on Red Cross shirts while they look for new positions.  
Trees will be planted along the Lincoln highway from ocean to ocean by the women of the states through which it passes, working under the direction of the General Federation of Women's Clubs. Each state's planting is to be individual and done under the conservation of chairman of its own women clubs.  
Unpaid telephone bills for the month of December are past due. If not paid by 5 p. m. of the 15th, service will be discontinued. Pioneer Tel. & Tel. Co., Adv.  
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